

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

10/16/03

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 490-95 (Bipartisan) SB 496 (Johnson)

CREDIT UNION MODERNIZATION

<u>Senate Bills 490-95</u> would make technical changes to state law regarding credit unions by replacing references to the state's old law with the new law created by SB 496.

- SB 490 passed [RC 474: 38 yes, 0 no].
- SB 491 passed [RC 475: 38 yes, 0 no].
- SB 492 passed [RC 476: 38 yes, 0 no].
- SB 493 passed [RC 477: 38 yes, 0 no].
- SB 494 passed [RC 478: 38 yes, 0 no].
- SB 495 passed [RC 479: 38 yes, 0 no].

<u>Senate Bill 496</u> would rewrite the Credit Union Act to provide greater flexibility to expand memberships, expand the range of services that credit unions may offer, increased ability for credit union boards to delegate operational issues to management, and update current technology and business practices.

Support: Michigan Credit Union League -- Senate Bill 496 would modernize and reorganize credit union regulation to allow both credit unions and their State regulators to deal with the changes that have occurred in the financial services industry, and provide increased flexibility for credit unions and regulators to respond to the industry as it evolves in the future. The bill would remove obsolete provisions, recognize new technologies, allow more flexibility in the management of credit unions, and accommodate changes in the marketplace in which credit unions conduct business. State-chartered credit unions need the ability to keep pace with other financial services providers.

Oppose: Michigan Bankers Association -- Senate Bill 496 would allow credit unions to depart significantly from their traditional and historical role. Over the years, some of the limits on their activities have been relaxed, yet credit unions continue to be exempt from corporate taxation. As a result, credit unions have an unfair competitive advantage over banks, savings and loan associations, and savings banks.

• SB 496 passed [RC 473: 38 yes, 0 no].

SB 568 (Patterson)

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: WATER POLLUTION

<u>Senate Bill 568</u> would allow for a \$10,000 award to be given to a person who provides information that contributes to the assessment of a civil fine for environmental violations. Support: MEC, Sierra Club.

10/7:

- Patterson 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC]. This require that any person who knowingly gives false information will pay the expenses incurred by the department and the expenses incurred by the person whom the information was used against.
- Senate Bill 568 was moved to 3rd Reading.

10/8:

- BRATER 1 (1 amend) was adopted [RC 449: 21 yes, 15 no]. This changed the punitive portion of the bill a person who knowingly gave false information would only be held liable if they did it in order to receive the financial reward. Hammerstrom moved to reconsider passage of the Brater amendment. This motion passed [no RC].
- Hammerstrom then moved to pass the bill for the day. This motion also passed [no RC]. SB 568 was passed for the day.

10/16:

- The vote adopting Brater 1 was reconsidered [RC 480: 22 yes, 16 no (DEMS)]. Brater 1 was defeated [no RC].
- SB 568 passed [RC 481: 38 yes, 0 no].

HB 4790 (Nitz)

House Bill 4790 would remove the requirement for the labeling of certain additives (including ethanol) on retail fuel pumps. HB 4790 is a companion bill to HB 4657 passed in the Senate June 6, 2003. Support: Michigan Farm Bureau.

• HB 4790 passed with IE [RC 483: 25 yes, 13 no (DEMS)].

HB 5037 (Howell)

House Bill 5037 will have a minimal fiscal impact. It will allow those judges or their beneficiaries who were otherwise eligible for the increased benefits passed last year, but may not have received timely notification of the opportunity a second chance to apply.

- Allen 1 (1 amend) was adopted on 3rd Reading.
- HB 5037 passed with IE [RC 482: 38 yes, 0 no].

THIRD READING

SBs 337-39 (Bishop/Johnson)

The three-bill package (SBs 337-39) requires that multiple dwelling units be equipped with fire alarm systems, and that the preservation of historic buildings include fire alarm systems.

- Johnson 1 (S-3) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 337 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

- Johnson 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 338 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.
- Johnson 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 339 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

SB 476 (EMERSON)

The bill would limit the application of provisions that allow the number of authorized mills to be changed in a district library agreement; under the bill, this would be allowed only within a county with a population between 12,000 and 18,000 (There are seven counties that fall within this range: Arenac, Benzie, Crawford, Gogebic, Iron, Missaukee, and Presque Isle). The bill repeals current law which allows a county with a population between 400,000 and 500,000 (Genesee County) and one or more municipalities jointly to establish a consolidated district library.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 476 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 742 (Johnson)

The bill would require an owner of a building or structure constructed before November 6, 1974, to install one or more smoke alarms in the building or structure.

• SB 742 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 4895 (BYRUM)

House Bill 4895 would specify that the portion of Highway US-127 in Ingham County would be known as the "James Pelton Firefighters memorial Highway"

- Committee 1 (amends) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 4895 was moved to 3rd Reading.